



## IOWA DRUG RECOGNITION EXPERT ADVISORY BOARD

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### 2022 Kip Hayward Award Winner

In 1992, Polk County Deputy Sheriff Kipton Hayward was among the first officers in Iowa to be certified as a Drug Recognition Expert while he was assigned to Polk County's Alcohol Safety Action Program, or ASAP, unit. He served in that capacity until the early morning hours of October 9, 1993 when he was on the scene of a fatality crash involving a drunk driver. While performing collision-related duties, Deputy Hayward was struck and killed by a passing motorist, who continued driving from the scene and was stopped over one mile away by an Iowa State Trooper. That driver was also found to be intoxicated by drugs and alcohol.

In 1994, the Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau memorialized Deputy Hayward's ultimate sacrifice by forming the "Kip Hayward Award". In 1995, the GTSB began awarding one DRE officer, or person who has materially educated the DRE community by providing guidance and education that has stood out, to our DRE Program each year at this very conference. This award was designed to select a DRE, or partner to our program, who epitomizes what Deputy Hayward stood for and to honor their exemplary service to the citizens of the State of Iowa in combating impaired driving. This award is a very special award amongst the DRE community and it signifies an officer reaching the highest mark in excellence to combating impaired driving.

This year's recipient of the Kip Hayward award is not a DRE, or even a Police Officer. In fact, there has been only two other times in the nearly 30 year history of our DRE Program that a civilian was selected for this award. That said, the assistance he has continually provided to the DRE Program needs to be recognized. The 2022 winner of the Kip Hayward Award is Dr. Justin Grodnitzky from the Division of Criminal Investigation Criminalistics Laboratory.

Dr. Grodnitzky came to our program as a toxicologist and developed a keen

interest in our program. He later sought approval to "audit" our class meaning he attended the entire school, but couldn't become a certified DRE due to him being a civilian. It should be noted that he is one of three people to have ever gone through our school and not miss any questions on any quizzes or tests. With the knowledge of the DRE Program, Dr. Grodnitzky has worked closely with our Iowa DREs, he has provided instruction to our program numerous times, and has been recognized nationally by being asked to present at the DRE National Conference.

Dr. Grodnitzky is currently the Technical Leader of the Toxicology Section at the Iowa DCI Criminalistics Laboratory and is responsible for the scientific integrity of all analysis performed by the Toxicology Section, as well as ensuring this section adheres to the impaired driving laws as defined in the Iowa State and Administrative Codes. Dr. Grodnitzky continues to make other toxicologists around him better by educating himself on the pharmacodynamics and pharmacokinetics of drugs of abuse and breaking down and sharing that information with his peers.

To put Dr. Grodnitzky's impact on the DRE Program and prosecuting impaired drivers into perspective, when he started at the DCI Lab, they only measured ethanol in blood samples. He developed and validated the first method of analyzing blood for marijuana metabolites and, today, the Toxicology Section can provide attorneys and law enforcement officers with blood drug results for over 200 drugs of abuse. In addition, he testifies as an expert witness in impaired driving cases using the combined knowledge of toxicology coupled with his keen understanding of the DRE Program and the drug-impaired driver.

The Iowa DRE Program continues to be recognized by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and International Association of Chiefs of Police as one of the best DRE Programs and those accolades are in large part to the effort being put forth by Dr. Grodnitzky, among other key people.

In his personal life, Dr. Grodnitzky has been married to his wife Tracy for 24 years and they have two children, Alec and Natalie. Dr. Grodnitzky's work ethic and dedication to combating impaired driving truly epitomizes the meaning behind this award and it is my pleasure to present him with the 2022 Kip Hayward Award.